225407

## LAW OFFICES OF LOUIS E. GITOMER

LOUIS E: GITOMER
LOU\_GITOMER@VERIZON.NET

July 23, 2009

THE ADAMS BUILDING, SUITE 301 600 BALTIMORE AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204-4022 (202) 466-6532 FAX (410) 332-0885

Honorable Anne K. Quinlan Acting Secretary Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street, S.W. Washington, D. C. 20423

RE: Docket No. AB-364 (Sub-No. 16X), Mid-Michigan Railroad, Inc.—Abandonment Exemption—in Muskegon County, MI

Dear Acting Secretary Quinlan:

By decision served in the above-entitled proceeding on May 19, 2009, the Surface Transportation Board imposed a condition requiring the Mid-Michigan Railroad, Inc. ("MMRR") to "contact the City regarding restoration of the 15 public road crossings and all related infrastructure, including streets, sidewalks, curbs, pavement, and terraces, and comply with the reasonable requirements of the City in restoring the 15 public road crossings that may be impacted as a result of rail line salvage" as a condition precedent to commencing salvage activities.

MMRR has contacted the City and has agreed to comply with the City's reasonable requests as evidenced by the attached exchange of emails. Having complied with the condition, MMRR respectfully requests the Board to remove the condition so that MMRR can proceed to salvage the track and materials from the rail line.

MMRR is efiling this letter. Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please contact me.

ノタノル

Sincerely your

Louis E. Gitomer

Attorney for: Mid-Michigan Railroad, Inc.

cc: Mr. James Radabaugh

## Louis E. Gitomer

From:

Franger, Sandy K, (SATX) [Sandy Franger@RailAmerica.com]

Sent:

Thursday, July 16, 2009 5:32 PM

To:

Louis E. Gitomer

Subject:

FW. Muskegon Abandonment (road crossing restoration)

From: Dine, Bob (MMRR)

Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2009 12:47 PM

To: Al-Shatel, Mohammed

Cc: Franger, Sandy K. (SATX); Charron, Kenneth (GPRK); Bixby, Jack (HESR)

Subject: RE: Muskegon Abandonment (road crossing restoration)

## Mohammed.

The City of Muskegon's understanding is correct regarding how we will proceed on the abandonment.

From: Al-Shatel, Mohammed [mailto:Mohammed.Al-Shatel@postman.org]

Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2009 5:19 PM

To: Dine. Bob (MMRR)

Cc: Bixby, Jack (HESR); Pennell, Mark (MMRR)

Subject: RE: Muskegon Abandonment (road crossing restoration)

On behalf of the City of Muskegon please consider this email from Mohammed Al-Shatel, City Engineer for the City of Muskegon, as the City's understanding and consent to the proposed removal of abandoned railroad crossing in the City of Muskegon by Michigan Shores at no cost to the City. It is also understood by the City that the crossing locations are along the Keating Ave corridor from Black Creek to Peck (along the southerly boundaries of the City's corporate limits). It is further understood by the City that the roadway restoration will be in accordance to the City's specifications.

Mohammed Al-Shatel City Engineer (231) 724-6944

----Original Message----

From: Dine, Bob (MMRR) [mailto:Bob.Dine@RailAmerica.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2009 4:57 PM

To: Al-Shatel, Mohammed

Cc: Bixby, Jack (HESR); Pennell, Mark (MMRR)

Subject: FW: Muskegon Abandonment (road crossing restoration)

## Mohammed.

As you are probably aware, the Surface Transportation Board order approving the abandonment of the Michigan Shore railroad from Black Creek to Barney Street requires the Michigan Shore Railroad to notify the City of Muskegon of our intent to remove the road crossings in the abandoned section. Railroad counsel does not think the exchange below between you and Mark Pennell is quite sufficient. They would like a slightly more formal response from the City. A return email that conveys the City's understanding of our intent to remove the crossings would be appreciated. If you wish to scan a letter on City letterhead, that would be great

It is my understanding that the work to remove the abandoned section is scheduled to begin in early August. However, the work cannot begin until the we notify the Surface Transportation Board that the City of Muskegon has been notified regarding the crossing removals. I am certain that we both have wanted to remove these crossings for several years. We now have the opportunity to complete the removals soon. Please feel free to call me at (616) 293-0558 if you have any questions or need additional information.

From: Pennell, Mark (MMRR)

Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2009 4:07 PM

To: Dine, Bob (MMRR)

Subject: FW: Muskegon Abandonment (road crossing restoration)

From: Al-Shatel, Mohammed [mailto:Mohammed.Al-Shatel@postman.org]

**Sent:** Friday, June 26, 2009 1:03 PM

To: Pennell, Mark (MMRR)

Cc: Bixby, Jack (HESR); Dine, Bob (MMRR)

Subject: RE: Muskegon Abandonment (road crossing restoration)

Would you please make sure they will follow traffic control signage. Thanks

----Original Message----

From: Pennell, Mark (MMRR) [mailto:Mark.Pennell@railamerica.com]

Sent: Friday, June 26, 2009 9:12 AM

To: Al-Shatel, Mohammed

Cc: Bixby, Jack (HESR); Dine, Bob (MMRR)

**Subject:** Muskegon Abandonment (road crossing restoration)

Mohammed,

We have hired a contractor Unitrac Railroad Materials, INC who will be starting to do the take up of track materials and restoration of fifteen (15) railroad crossings in the next 30 to 60 days. The STB order tells us to restore the crossings and our contractor plans on doing so according to the state law. If you have any questions please feel free to give me a call.

Mark Pennell RoadMaster Mid-Michigan Railroad 311 E Western Avenue Muskegon, MI 49442 Phone 231.722.2686 Cell 616.293.0564